



McColl Superfund Site

*Fullerton, California
October 1997*

~ COMMUNITY UPDATE ~

The McColl Superfund Site is located on the southwest corner of the intersections of Rosecrans Avenue and Sunny Ridge Drive in Fullerton, California. During the 1940s and 1950s refining wastes from aviation fuel production were placed at the site in unlined waste pits. During the expansion of Orange County communities in the 1970s, homes were built adjacent to the area of the site containing waste pits. The waste material and the odors from the pits were unwelcome to neighbors, thus becoming the subject of numerous studies and discussions. Subsequently, the U.S. EPA selected remedies for the contamination of the McColl site that consisted of a containment system for the waste pits and a program of surface water management to protect the ground water in the area. These remedies are described in the Records of Decision of September 1995 and May 1996.

Construction of the Containment System Completed

The construction of the containment system that began in the fall of 1996 is now complete. The system consists of three major elements. Around the pits are subsurface barrier walls and over the top of the pits is an impermeable cover. Under the cover is a network of piping to collect

the subsurface gases, which are then collected and treated in a carbon treatment plant.

What Happens Next?

Monitoring

Ongoing monitoring includes inspections of the entire site on a regular schedule and after major rains, as well as tests of the equipment, and periodic sampling of the ground water. During the first year the monitoring will be more frequent to ensure that everything is working as designed. In addition, the first year of monitoring will provide the information needed to check the effectiveness of the remedy, to verify the procedures for future monitoring and to evaluate the need to make any necessary changes.

Completion of the Golf Course

The McColl site borders the Los Coyotes Country Club and once was used for part of the golf course. After the environmental work began, golfers could not play the original holes 6, 7 and 8. Now that the construction of the containment system is complete, the restoration of the golf course is underway. In addition to the familiar tees, fairways and greens, the design of the golf course also incorporates the requirement to

The Steps for Deletion

Once the construction at a site is completed, and determined to be fully operational and functional, the deletion process can begin in consultation with the State of California and with participation by the community. For the McColl Site, EPA plans to proceed with the deletion process in sequential steps over the next 18 months. First, EPA will monitor the effectiveness of the entire remedy over the first year of operation beginning in November 1997 through October 1998. The operations during this first year will be used to make any necessary changes or modifications to the monitoring and maintenance requirements. These results and a summary of the history of the site will be published and made available for community review. The site would then be proposed for deletion through publication in the Federal Register. Comments would be invited, then addressed and made available to the community. The deletion could be completed by the summer of 1999.

The Long-term Future

Who will perform the routine operation and maintenance at the site?

The current arrangement is for the Los Coyotes Country Club to perform routine inspections through its management of the golf course. Additional inspections, operations, and maintenance will be performed by contractors working for the McColl Site Group Oil Companies. EPA will continue to oversee the work. Any changes to the

arrangements for the operations and maintenance would require EPA approval.

What if more work is needed? If additional work is needed EPA has the authority to see that it is done. If EPA needed to use money from the Superfund to construct some additional part to the existing systems, the site could be re-listed to the NPL without having to re-score the site using the Hazard Ranking System, also known as the HRS.

Where can you get more information?

A full set of the documents pertaining to the investigations, Record of Decision, the design and construction are available at the Superfund Records Center Library located at 95 Hawthorne Street, Suite 430S in San Francisco, California. Many of the documents are also available at the Fullerton Library.

Who can you contact in the future?

Any questions, concerns, or suggestions can be directed to:

Los Coyotes Country Club: Mr. Chuck McAuley at (714) 994-7788.

McColl Site Group: The Project Coordinator at (714) 523-0160.

U.S. EPA: The Project Manager, Patti Collins, at (415) 744-2229 or the Community Involvement Coordinator for McColl at (415) 744-2184 or 1-800-231-3075.

direct surface water away from the old pit areas and into the natural drainage paths. This will prevent water from collecting over the pits.

Although the grass and other landscaping are currently being planted, these new holes will not be ready for use until the spring of 1998. The golf course will be operated by the Los Coyotes Country Club through agreements among the McColl Site Group Oil Companies, McAuley LCX Corporation, which owns the Los Coyotes Country Club, and the U.S. EPA.

McColl as a Superfund Site

The McColl Site is listed on the National Priorities List (NPL) of the Superfund Program at EPA. Now that the construction of the containment system is complete, the site is a candidate for deletion from the NPL. There are both advantages and disadvantages to having a site on this list. The primary advantage is the attention and corrective action brought to a listed site. It can be a disadvantage if the attention creates a stigma about living near the listed site.

Regardless of whether a site is on the NPL or not, EPA has authority to do many different kinds of environmental work at hazardous waste sites. EPA can perform investigations, respond to environmental emergencies, and work with communities and companies to address any required corrective actions. In addition, EPA can evaluate the effectiveness

of any remedy that is already in place without the site being listed on the NPL. Only when EPA must use money from the Superfund to construct a long-term remedy, such as a treatment plant, does the site need to be listed on the NPL. If there is no need for EPA to use money from the Superfund to construct a treatment plant, then there may not be a need to have the site designated as a "Superfund Site" on the NPL.

At McColl the long-term remedy has been constructed by the McColl Site Group Oil Companies. There was no need for EPA to use money from the Superfund for the construction. Now that the construction is completed, the site is a candidate for deletion from the NPL. EPA will determine whether all the necessary work has been completed. Then if the community is interested in having the site deleted from the NPL, there is a process to accomplish that.

EPA will continue to oversee the long-term operation and maintenance at McColl regardless of whether it is listed on the NPL or not. The McColl site has a plan for the long-term operation and maintenance that includes routine inspections, equipment maintenance, responding to emergencies and regular monitoring. Each year the results of the operations will be reported to EPA. Every five years, an additional review will be performed.

For More Information

Documents for the McColl Superfund Site are located in the information repository at:

Fullerton Public Library
Local History Room
353 W. Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92633
(714) 738-6333

Hours:

Monday - Thursday	10 am - 9 pm
Friday	10 am - 6 pm
Saturday	10 am - 5 pm
Sunday	Closed

If you have questions about the Superfund cleanup at McColl, please call or write EPA's Community Relations Coordinator for the site:
Vicky Semones,
Community Relations Coordinator
U.S. EPA, Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (H-1-1)
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 744-2184

You may also call EPA's toll-free Superfund hotline and leave a message. Your call will be returned.

The hotline number is: (800) 231-3075

United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street (SFD-3)
San Francisco, CA 94105
Attn: Vicky Semones

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